

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 BARRAN 00059 171710Z  
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 SCS-06 ISO-00 CA-01 /022 W  
-----073115 171851Z /46  
P 171400Z FEB 78  
FM AMCONSUL BARRANQUILLA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 401  
INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

UNCLAS BARRANQUILLA 0059

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: CDES CO (HEGGOOD,FRANK AND MIMS,ARTHUR)  
SUBJECT: DES: FRANK HEGGOOD AND ARTHUR MIM

REF: BARRANQUILLA 270 (AUG. 24, 1977) AND PREVIOUS

1. IN ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN (1) COLOMBIAN DEATH  
CERTIFICATES AND (2) PERMISSION TO EXHUME SUBJECT S  
REMAINS FOR SHIPMENT TO U.S., POST HAS CONTINUALLY  
WRITTEN TO COURTS,NOTARIES AND OTHER OFFICIALS IN  
DISTRICT WHERE FATAL CRASH OF LOCKHEED LODESTAR N 570 FT  
OCCURED ON APRIL 15, 1977. OFFICIALS IN CHIVOLO,  
NEAR CRASH SITE,AND IN PLATO,CAPITAL OF THE DISTRICT,  
REFERRED CONOFF TO ONLY NOTARY OF TOWN OF TENERIFE,  
FOR IISUNCE OF DEATH CERTIFICATES,-AND TO ALIRIO  
MACHADO,JUDGE OF MUNICIPAL COURT OF MIXED JURISDICTION  
TENERIFE,FOR PERMISSION TO EXHUME BODIES.

2 . NEITHER COURT NOR NOTARY HAS A TELEPHONE. NONE  
OF POST S LETTERS TO NOTARY,CONCERNING DEATH  
CERTIFICATES,HAS BEEN ANSWERED.ONLY REPLY FROM JUDGE  
MACHADO WAS CABLE DATED JANUARY 19, STATING FAMILIES  
OF DECEASED MEN MUST APPEAR IN HIS COURT TO  
PROVIDE INFORMATION. POST REPLIED TO MACHADO,ASKING  
FOR MORE DETAILS OF LEGAL REQUIREMENTS FOR EXHUMATION  
AND STATING CONSULATE IS ACTING ON BEHALF OF FAMILIES,  
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BUT NO REPLY HAS BEEN RECEIVED.

3. LACK OF RESPONSE AND INTEREST ON PART OF JUDGE  
AND NOTARY IN TENERIFE ARE INDICATION THAT NO FURTHER  
PROGRESS CAN BE MADE WITHOUT PERSONAL VISIT BY CONOFF  
TO TENERIFE. TENERIFE LIES APPROXIMATELY NINE HOURS  
BY LAND (IN FOUR WHEEL DRIVE VEHICLE,OVER UNPAVED,

SINGLE-TRACK ROADS) FROM BARRANQUILLA, AND IS IN AREA NOTED FOR ITS MARIJUANA FIELDS AND PROLIFERATION OF CLANDESTINE AIRSTRIPS FREQUENTED BY DRUG TRAFFICKERS. THE TWO OR THREE DAYS THAT WOULD BE REQUIRED FOR A TRIP BY LAND TO TENERIFE WOULD CONSTITUTE A VERY HIGH SECURITY RISK FOR ANY CONSULATE PERSONNEL INVOLVED. IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE, HOWEVER, TO FLY BY SMALL AIRCRAFT TO PLATO, ABOUT TEN MILES SOUTH OF TENERIFE, AND DRIVE TO TENERIFE AND BACK FROM THERE, A TRIP LASTING ONE DAY. THE COST OF CHARTERING A SUITABLE AIRCRAFT WOULD BE APPROXIMATELY \*150 TO \*200.

4. POST REQUESTS DEPARTMENT S APPROVAL EXPEND FUNDS FOR CHARTER AIRCRAFT TO TAKE CONOFF TO TENERIFE TO

DISCUSS WITH JUDGE AND NOTARY EXHUMATION OF CADAVERS AND ISSUANCE DEATH CERTIFICATES FOR MIMS AND HEGGOOD. THIS TRIP WOULD BE SOLELY TO DISCUSS MATTER, AND WOULD NOT BE GUARANTEE RANTEE OF FAVORABLE ACTION ON PART OF GOC OFFICIALS. WITHOUT PERSONAL VISIT TO TENERIFE, POST FORESSES ENDLESS SERIES OF UNANSWERED LETTERS SENT TO OFFICIALS RESPOSIBLE FOR CASE. PETERSON

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Control Number:** n/a  
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**Subject:** DES: FRANK HEGGOOD AND ARTHUR MIM  
**TAGS:** CDES, CO, (HEGGOOD, FRANK), (MIMS, ARTHUR)  
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